

# CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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WALTER M. DICKIE, M.D., Director

## Weekly Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES  
 EDITOR

## Maternal Deaths Lowest in History

In 1939 there were but 314 maternal deaths in California as compared with 341 in 1938. The rate fell from 3.3 in 1938 to 3.0 in 1939. Organized efforts in the reduction of maternal mortality have been conducted throughout California during the past several years and it is apparent that as a result of these efforts the lives of mothers are actually being saved.

It is interesting to note that the maternal mortality rate among white mothers was considerably lower than for other races. There were 233 maternal deaths in the white race last year giving a rate of 2.7 per 1000 live births. The maternal death rate among Mexican mothers was conspicuously high. There were 52 such deaths last year, giving a rate of 4.1. The maternal mortality rates for Negro mothers was also high, there having been 17 deaths among such women last year, giving a rate of 9.6. This was a slight increase over 1938 when there were registered 15 deaths of Negro mothers with a rate of 8.9.

The following tables provide data on maternal mortality by counties in 1938 and 1939 and by races for the same years:

### MATERNAL MORTALITY—BY COUNTIES, 1938-1939

Counties	1939		1938	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Totals	314	3.0	341	3.3
Alameda	16	2.2	29	4.4
Alpine	--	--	--	--

Counties	1939		1938	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Amador	--	--	--	--
Butte	2	2.2	3	3.4
Calaveras	--	--	--	--
Colusa	--	--	2	11.1
Contra Costa	4	3.3	5	4.3
Del Norte	--	--	--	--
El Dorado	3	20.7	--	--
Fresno	11	3.4	17	5.2
Glenn	--	--	--	--
Humboldt	1	1.4	3	4.0
Imperial	4	2.8	7	4.5
Inyo	--	--	--	--
Kern	12	4.0	11	3.8
Kings	2	2.8	1	1.4
Lake	2	18.7	--	--
Lassen	1	3.5	1	3.1
Los Angeles	118	3.0	123	3.2
Madera	2	3.9	4	7.6
Marin	--	--	--	--
Mariposa	--	--	--	--
Mendocino	1	2.7	2	5.2
Merced	2	1.8	1	1.0
Modoc	2	20.6	--	--
Mono	--	--	--	--
Monterey	5	4.4	5	4.4
Napa	3	8.2	1	3.0
Nevada	3	8.5	--	--
Orange	7	3.3	5	2.3
Placer	--	--	--	--
Plumas	1	5.6	--	--
Riverside	14	7.0	6	3.0
Sacramento	7	2.5	7	2.6
San Benito	1	6.6	--	--
San Bernardino	7	2.4	9	3.1
San Diego	13	2.9	18	3.9
San Francisco	27	3.1	19	2.2
San Joaquin	8	3.8	6	3.0
San Luis Obispo	--	--	--	--
San Mateo	3	4.2	2	2.5
Santa Barbara	4	3.2	5	4.0
Santa Clara	2	0.7	16	6.3



Counties	1939		1938	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Santa Cruz	1	1.5	2	3.3
Shasta	1	2.1	--	--
Sierra	--	--	--	--
Siskiyou	4	9.6	3	6.9
Solano	1	1.8	--	--
Sonoma	5	5.6	3	3.3
Stanislaus	1	0.7	5	3.7
Sutter	1	2.6	2	5.4
Tehama	--	--	--	--
Trinity	1	29.4	--	--
Tulare	7	3.1	10	4.4
Tuolumne	--	--	1	5.6
Ventura	3	2.2	4	2.9
Yolo	1	2.6	3	7.8
Yuba	--	--	--	--

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY—BY RACE, 1938-1939

Race	1939		1938	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Totals	314	3.0	341	3.3
White	233	2.7	257	3.1
Negro	17	9.6	15	8.9
Indian	8	14.2	2	4.4
Chinese	2	3.5	2	3.7
Japanese	1	0.7	6	3.9
Mexican	52	4.1	57	4.4
Filipino	--	--	1	2.2
Others	1	5.0	1	5.4

#### CONFERENCE ON SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION

A Conference on School Health Education sponsored by the State Departments of Education and Public Health will be conducted during summer session on the University of California campus in Berkeley by Dr. Mayhew Derryberry, Chief of Health Education Studies, National Institute of Health, U. S. Public Health Service.

Dates of the conference are July 22 to 25, inclusive. The program is planned to be of value to educators and to workers in public health. Lectures will be interspersed with showings of new motion pictures, exhibits of educational materials and field trips to clinics, child health conferences, public health laboratories and other places of interest.

Dr. Derryberry will conduct discussions on problems which arise in introducing units of health instruction in other courses, on values and limitations of special hygiene courses and on the evaluation of school health education.

Lectures by other experts in the fields of education and public health will deal with school health education services and materials available in California from federal and local sources, the control of communicable diseases and problems of nutrition.

Further information may be obtained by addressing Conference on School Health Education, Haviland Hall, University of California, Berkeley, Cal.

#### SALE OF SOBISMINOL UNDER CONTROL

Because of the dangers involved with self-administration of sobisminol, the California State Board of Public Health has adopted regulations that prohibit the sale of the drug except on written prescription of a duly licensed physician. Manufacturers of the product are also required to provide full information relative to the use of the drug in their products.

The regulations as adopted by the board at its regular meeting on the sixth day of April, 1940, read as follows:

"The California State Board of Public Health deems that the drug sobisminol is not safe for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended or suggested in the proposed labeling thereof; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the sale of sobisminol is prohibited unless sold on a written prescription of a duly licensed physician; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the manufacturers of sobisminol are hereby requested to file with the State Board of Public Health an application setting forth the following:

A. Full reports of investigations which have been made to show whether or not such drug is safe for use;

B. A full list of the articles used as components of such drug;

C. A full statement of the composition of such drug;

D. A full description of the methods used in, and the facilities and controls used for, the manufacture, processing, and packing of such drug;

E. Such samples of such drug and of the articles used as components thereof as the board may require; and

F. Specimens of the labeling proposed to be used for such drug.

The above regulation is effective immediately.

Adopted under section 26290, Health and Safety Code, 1939, this sixth day of April, 1940."

#### FORMER BOARD MEMBER DIES

Dr. A. J. Scott, who was a member of the California State Board of Public Health from 1920 to 1930, died recently in Los Angeles, where he had made his home for many years. Dr. Scott was an outstanding pediatrician, a man of broad sympathies and had a deep understanding of problems in public health administration. His services on the State Board of Public Health were invaluable and his passing is regretted deeply by staff members of the state department and by a large group of public health workers scattered throughout the state.



### NEW RULES FOR VINTAGE WINE

At its regular meeting held April 6, 1940, the California State Board of Public Health adopted new rules governing California vintage wines.

Under these regulations, any statement or representation relative to age or vintage year on wines bottled or packed on or after April 14, 1940, is prohibited, except as specifically provided in the rules. Labeling of vintage wines, except by producers properly authorized, and any statement of vintage year on any container of wine in excess of one gallon capacity is prohibited, except as specifically provided in the rules.

All producers, bottlers, distributors and retailers of wine have been cautioned to follow these rules explicitly. The regulations have been adopted in accordance with the board's established policy to maintain the highest possible quality and purity in California wines, and are designed especially to eliminate false labeling and other illegal practices, in order that consumers may receive full and adequate protection.

Copies of the new rules may be obtained by addressing the Bureau of Food and Drug Inspection at 310 State Building, San Francisco.

### DEATH COMES TO DR. COVINGTON

Dr. Platt W. Covington, Western Director for the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, and well known to every health officer in western states, died in Baltimore April 20. Dr. Covington had been associated with the Rockefeller Foundation for almost 30 years. He had served in the British West Indies and in many localities in the United States. At one time he held the chair of preventive medicine at the University of Texas.

For many years he had been stationed in Salt Lake City, traveling throughout the western states stimulating both official and unofficial public health agencies. He was always an enthusiastic exponent of scientific procedures in public health administration. Through his understanding of local problems and far-sighted recommendations, public health services in western states have become enhanced greatly. Possessed of a genial personality and a sympathetic understanding of human problems, Dr. Covington will be missed greatly by public health officials throughout the whole country.

### NEW HEALTH OFFICER IN RED BLUFF

Dr. Frank J. Bailey, who has served previously as city health officer of Red Bluff, has again been appointed to fill that office, succeeding Dr. R. G. Frey.

### DISEASES REPORTABLE IN CALIFORNIA

#### REPORTABLE ONLY

Anthrax	Lymphogranuloma
Beriberi	Inguinale
Botulism	Malaria*
Chancroid	Pellagra
Coccidioidal Granuloma	Pneumonia (Lobar)
Dengue*	Relapsing Fever
Epilepsy	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Fluke Infection	Septic Sore Throat
Food Poisoning	Tetanus
Glanders†	Trichinosis
Hookworm	Tularemia
Jaundice (Infectious)	Undulant Fever

#### ISOLATION OF PATIENT

Chickenpox	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Dysentery (Amoebic)	Psittacosis
Dysentery (Bacillary)	Rabies (Animal)
Erysipelas	Rabies (Human)
German Measles	Syphilis
Gonococcus Infection	Trachoma
Influenza	Tuberculosis
Measles	Whooping Cough
Mumps	

#### QUARANTINABLE

Cholera†	Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria	Smallpox
Encephalitis (Infectious)	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever
Leprosy	Typhus Fever
Meningitis (Epidemic)	Yellow Fever†
Plague†	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	

\* Patients should be kept in mosquito-free room.

† Cases to be reported to State Department of Public Health by telephone or telegraph and special instructions will be issued.

### COLUSA HEALTH OFFICER DIES

Dr. Ney M. Salter, for many years a resident of Colusa County and who had served both as health officer of Colusa City and Colusa County, died recently at his home in Williams. Dr. Salter had taken an active interest in public health affairs and his passing is a distinct loss to his community and to the state.

Seldom shall we see in cities, courts, and rich families, where men live plentifully and eat and drink freely, that perfect health and athletic soundness and vigor of constitution which are commonly seen in the country, where nature is the cook and the necessity the caterer, and where they have no other doctor but the sun and fresh air.—South.



## MORBIDITY

Complete Reports for Following Diseases for Week Ending  
April 20, 1940

## Chickenpox

839 cases: Alameda County 17, Alameda 14, Berkeley 8, Hayward 1, Oakland 40, San Leandro 2, Butte County 1, Oroville 2, Fresno County 16, Fresno 24, Reedley 1, Kern County 7, Bakersfield 5, Kings County 2, Hanford 15, Lemoore 8, Lake County 1, Los Angeles County 68, Alhambra 6, Burbank 1, Claremont 10, Compton 1, Culver City 3, Glendale 26, Huntington Park 2, Long Beach 54, Los Angeles 140, Montebello 1, Pasadena 3, Redondo 3, San Gabriel 1, Santa Monica 4, South Pasadena 14, Lynwood 2, Hawthorne 2, South Gate 5, Monterey Park 1, Maywood 1, Bell 1, Madera County 16, Ross 1, San Rafael 3, Monterey County 5, Carmel 1, Napa 1, Orange County 11, Brea 3, Fullerton 4, Santa Ana 1, La Habra 4, Laguna Beach 4, Plumas County 5, Riverside County 6, Riverside 14, Sacramento County 32, Sacramento 4, San Benito County 2, Upland 1, San Diego County 11, Escondido 1, La Mesa 3, San Diego 19, San Francisco 65, Stockton 3, San Luis Obispo County 13, Paso Robles 3, San Mateo County 1, Burlingame 5, Daly City 1, Redwood City 1, San Mateo 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara County 1, Mountain View 1, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 5, Sunnyvale 2, Shasta County 5, Siskiyou County 8, Rio Vista 1, Sonoma County 7, Stanislaus County 6, Modesto 28, Sutter County 1, Tulare County 2, Ventura County 1, Santa Paula 1, Ojai 1, Yolo County 4, Yuba County 2, California 1.\*

## Diphtheria

19 cases: Alameda County 1, Berkeley 2, Kern County 1, Culver City 1, Los Angeles 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 2, Colton 1, San Diego 5, San Francisco 1, Stockton 1, San Jose 2.

## German Measles

34 cases: Berkeley 2, Humboldt County 1, Kern County 1, Bakersfield 1, Susanville 1, Los Angeles County 1, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 2, Merced 1, Monterey County 1, Indio 1, San Francisco 1, San Joaquin County 1, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 1, San Jose 1, Siskiyou County 1, California 14.\*

## Influenza

136 cases: Berkeley 1, Los Angeles County 12, El Monte 5, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 12, Pasadena 2, South Pasadena 1, Madera County 1, Napa 1, Brea 1, San Benito County 27, Hollister 67, San Francisco 1, Ventura 3.

## Malaria

5 cases: Kern County 2, Monterey County 1, San Francisco 1, California 1.\*

## Measles

505 cases: Berkeley 2, Oakland 4, San Leandro 1, Martinez 1, Fresno County 12, Fresno 4, Eureka 1, Kern County 79, Bakersfield 38, Delano 2, Kings County 2, Corcoran 3, Susanville 1, Los Angeles County 5, Alhambra 2, Burbank 2, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 33, Pasadena 1, San Fernando 10, Santa Monica 1, South Pasadena 1, Lynwood 1, Bell 1, Merced 3, Monterey County 2, Carmel 3, Orange County 10, Fullerton 1, Santa Ana 1, Lincoln 3, Riverside County 1, Corona 1, Riverside 10, Sacramento 12, Hollister 7, San Bernardino 5, San Diego County 33, Chula Vista 6, El Cajon 1, Escondido 10, National City 3, San Diego 81, San Francisco 4, San Joaquin County 4, Lodi 6, Stockton 3, San Luis Obispo County 2, San Luis Obispo 9, San Mateo County 2, Santa Barbara 1, Palo Alto 5, Shasta County 2, Siskiyou County 42, Solano County 1, Stanislaus County 2, Sutter County 1, Tulare County 7, Ventura County 3, Oxnard 1, Santa Paula 5, Yolo County 3.

## Mumps

489 cases: Alameda County 4, Alameda 5, Berkeley 6, Oakland 8, Fresno County 18, Clovis 11, Coalinga 1, Fresno 5, Reedley 3, Selma 1, Kern County 11, Bakersfield 8, Kings County 7, Hanford 7, Lake County 3, Los Angeles County 47, Glendale 24, Long Beach 35, Los Angeles 23, Pasadena 2, San Fernando 3, San Marino 1, Gardena 1, Madera County 8, Merced County 2, Napa County 2, Orange County 4, Anaheim 3, Fullerton 9, Orange 9, Santa Ana 4, Riverside County 5, Riverside 23, Redlands 1, San Diego 7, San Francisco 50, San Joaquin County 15, Stockton 7, San Luis Obispo County 6, Paso Robles 17, Burlingame 3, Redwood City 1, San Mateo 1, Menlo Park 2, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Maria 2, Santa Clara County 30, Mountain View 2, Palo Alto 10, San Jose 1, Sunnyvale 1, Santa Cruz 1, Siskiyou County 1, Stanislaus County 3, Modesto 1, Sutter County 5, Tulare County 5, Ventura County 1, Santa Paula 3, Ventura 3, Yolo County 2, Yuba County 1, Marysville 3.

## Pneumonia (Lobar)

47 cases: Alameda County 1, Los Angeles County 12, Azusa 1, Burbank 1, Glendale 2, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 8, Pasadena 2, San Fernando 1, San Marino 1, South Gate 2, Orange County

1, Brea 1, Riverside 1, Indio 1, Sacramento 1, San Francisco 4, Paso Robles 1, San Mateo 1, Ventura County 1.

## Scarlet Fever

162 cases: Oakland 4, Chico 1, Colusa 1, Contra Costa County 3, Antioch 2, Fresno County 1, Glenn County 1, Orland 1, Humboldt County 1, Hanford 1, Los Angeles County 17, Hermosa 2, Los Angeles 30, Pasadena 2, Redondo 1, San Gabriel 1, Signal Hill 1, Orange County 1, Fullerton 1, Newport Beach 1, Santa Ana 3, Colfax 12, Lincoln 1, Plumas County 4, Riverside County 16, Blythe 1, Elsinore 1, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 1, Coronado 1, San Diego 4, San Francisco 13, Lodi 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Barbara 3, Santa Maria 2, Shasta County 2, Santa Rosa 2, Stanislaus County 4, Modesto 1, Sutter County 1, Tulare County 1, Ventura County 2, Santa Paula 2, Ojai 1, Yolo County 1, Winters 1, Woodland 2.

## Smallpox

3 cases: Butte County 1, Oroville 2.

## Typhoid Fever

7 cases: Glendale 1, Long Beach 1, Redwood City 1, Santa Maria 1, San Jose 1, Stanislaus County 2.

## Whooping Cough

438 cases: Alameda County 4, Alameda 1, Oakland 9, Fresno County 15, Coalinga 2, Fresno 7, Kern County 17, Kings County 3, Hanford 6, Los Angeles County 41, Alhambra 2, Burbank 4, Compton 12, El Segundo 1, Huntington Park 1, Inglewood 3, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles 34, Monrovia 1, Montebello 1, Santa Monica 1, Sierra Madre 1, Whittier 7, Lynwood 4, South Gate 3, Bell 4, Madera County 5, Merced County 3, Merced 3, Monterey County 11, Orange County 4, Anaheim 4, Orange 4, Santa Ana 2, Corona 11, Perris 13, Riverside 1, Sacramento County 4, Sacramento 42, San Bernardino County 2, Ontario 4, San Diego County 2, Escondido 2, San Diego 13, San Francisco 21, San Joaquin County 7, Tracy 7, San Mateo County 2, Santa Barbara County 10, Santa Barbara 4, Santa Clara County 7, Palo Alto 10, San Jose 11, Santa Cruz County 2, Santa Cruz 3, Watsonville 3, Siskiyou County 1, Sonoma County 5, Santa Rosa 4, Stanislaus County 6, Modesto 4, Tulare County 6, Ventura 1, Yolo County 1, Woodland 1, Yuba County 3.

## Meningitis (Epidemic)

One case: Napa County.

## Dysentery (Amoebic)

2 cases: Los Angeles 1, Riverside County 1.

## Dysentery (Bacillary)

One case: Los Angeles.

## Pellagra

One case: Kern County.

## Poliomyelitis

2 cases: Butte County 1, Santa Cruz 1.

## Trichinosis

2 cases: Alameda 1, San Leandro 1.

## Jaundice (Epidemic)

One case: Siskiyou County.

## Food Poisoning

21 cases: Kern County 6, Los Angeles County 9, El Monte 2, San Francisco 4.

## Undulant Fever

4 cases: Stockton 1, Daly City 1, Sutter County 1, Davis 1.

## Tularemia

One case: Redlands.

## Septic Sore Throat

2 cases: Oakland 1, Shasta County 1.

## Epilepsy

43 cases: Oakland 4, Los Angeles County 10, Glendale 1, Los Angeles 20, San Francisco County 3, Sonoma County 3, Tulare County 2.

## Rabies (Animal)

10 cases: Oakland 1, Los Angeles County 1, Huntington Park 1, Los Angeles 1, South Gate 1, Monterey County 1, San Francisco 2, San Mateo County 1, Ventura 1.

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